

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

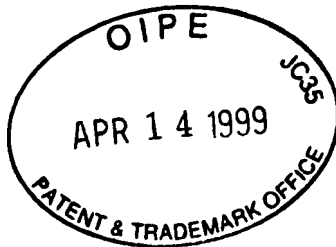
In re Patent Application of

NOVACEK ET AL.

Serial No. 09/215,519

Filed: December 18, 1998

For: SAFETY SYRINGE NEEDLE DEVICE WITH RETRACTABLE
NEEDLE PLATFORM (Amended)



Atty. Ref.: 968-76

Group: 3734

Examiner: Unassigned

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April 14, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Change the title to: --SAFETY SYRINGE NEEDLE DEVICE WITH RETRACTABLE
NEEDLE PLATFORM--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Add the following claims:

18. A syringe comprising:

- (a) a hollow, axially elongated barrel having a hollow interior;
- (b) an adapter carried by said barrel adjacent a distal end thereof and removable therefrom in response to rotation relative to and about the axis of said barrel, the adapter carrying a needle and providing fluid communication with the interior of said hollow barrel;

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